United Nations A/56/L.44*

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
10 December 2001
English
Original: French

Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 32
Multilingualism

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Hungary, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Niger, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen and Yugoslavia: draft resolution

Multilingualism

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2 (I) of 1 February 1946, 2480 B (XXIII) of 21 December 1968, 50/11 of 2 November 1995, 52/23 of 25 November 1997 and 54/64 of 6 December 1999,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Welcomes* the appointment of a coordinator for multilingualism;

3. *Notes* the expressed will of the Secretariat to encourage Secretariat officials, in formal meetings with interpretation services, to use any of the six official languages of which they have a command;

4. *Recalls* that the recruitment and promotion of staff in the Professional and higher categories, subject to Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations,

* Reissued for technical reasons.
[1] A/56/656.

01-68495* (E) 101201

must also take into account adequate and confirmed knowledge of a second official language, and *requests* the Secretary-General and the executive heads of organizations of the United Nations system to ensure, in particular when recruiting and promoting staff, respect for equality of the working languages of the organizations and of their use;

5. *Takes note* of the overhaul of the recruitment system undertaken by the Secretariat within the context of Project Galaxy and requests the Secretariat to ensure that the system becomes effective and operational in the second quarter of 2002 and that its potential for furthering multilingualism in the management of vacancy announcements is fully utilized;

6. *Urges* delegations of Member States and the Secretariat to plan working meetings so that they can be held on the basis of documents translated in good time into the various official languages and benefit from interpretation services;

7. *Requests* the Secretariat to carry out a comprehensive review of the reasons why in the operation of General Assembly committees there is a tendency to hold informal meetings included in the calendar without interpretation and to propose such improvements as it deems fit;

8. *Requests* the Secretariat to publish statistical information concerning the acquisition policy of the libraries and documentation centres of the various organs, according to linguistic criteria;

9. *Invites* the Secretariat to consider publishing on the United Nations web site a multilingual glossary of United Nations terminology;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-eighth session a comprehensive report on the implementation of resolution 50/11 and of the present resolution including, in particular, any necessary statistical information on the development of the use of languages within the Secretariat;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Multilingualism".